

~~SECRET~~*Office Memorandum*Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP61S00527A000100140014-7
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, D/S

DATE: 22 April 1953

FROM : S/COM

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Copies of a Proposed Revision of the Mission of
the Communications Branch.

Persuant to instructions, attached are some copies of a proposed revision of the mission of the Communications Branch.

For purposes of clarity, the scope of the subject matter to be treated is contained in a separate paragraph. This draft has been expanded to include those additional aspects of the field that you indicated you wanted us to cover.

It should be noted that the proposed scope is at marked variance with an existing OSI-ORR agreement which, as a matter of fact, could not and has not been adhered to for obvious reasons. A copy of this agreement is attached. It is our understanding that [REDACTED] 25X1A9a DAD/OSI now contemplates a proposed revision of this agreement to bring it in line with our past and present performance. It is probable that the depth and magnitude of the requirements laid upon CIA by SE-38 influenced this intention to some extent.

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Mission:

The mission of the Communications Branch is to support the economic intelligence program in general and to contribute to related economic intelligence in particular in the field of communications. Toward those ends the Branch will collate and coordinate intelligence studies prepared by the IAC agencies and will itself produce analyses and reports as appropriate and necessary. The Branch will determine the composition, manner of use, degree of effectiveness, trends in usage, rates of growth, direction of growth, purposes, and intentions of communications media, facilities, and services; evaluate media inter-relationships; measure input-output factors; and assess the contribution and appraise the essentiality of communication services to the economic and strategic power of a country or a group of countries with common interests. The Branch will identify and measure the degree of dependence (and hence the vulnerability) upon communication services of all economic activities including the economic implications of political, military, social, and cultural activities along with estimates of the effects of service and facility losses and impairments and on rates of recuperability. The Branch will also measure capability of a country's communications resources to support emergency, cold war, and hot war actions. The Branch will also maintain surveillance on gaps in raw information, in finished intelligence, and in the currency of intelligence, and will act to remove those gaps uncovered.

Scope.

For the purposes of this mission, the field of communications encompasses all media designed or used for the conveyance of intelligence or control signals, including wire, radio, thermal, infra-red, sonic, visual, physical, record, and word-of-mouth. However, in order to give fuller meaning to intelligence in this field and to show how communications fit into the economic picture as a whole, matters of organization, manpower, training, and technology will be given some treatment. The primary approach to the field will be the operating and operational media and facilities planned and in being, while equipment production, distribution, research, and development aspects will be considered only for purposes of forecasting events in the cognizant field. Subject to special instructions to the contrary, the geographical areas of interest are first the Soviet Bloc; second, the countries peripheral to the Bloc; and third, the rest of the World.

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